



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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CONTENTS

27 July 1995

CENTRAL AFRICA

Cameroon

Unrest With Political Undertone Reported in North [<i>London International</i>]	1
'Heavy' Military Presence Reported [<i>London International</i>]	1

Rwanda

German Foreign Minister Arrives in Kigali [<i>AFP</i>]	2
Promises Continued Aid [<i>Kigali Radio</i>]	2
Kinkel Visits Hutu Refugee Camp	2

Zaire

Foreign Minister Denies Closure of Rwanda Border [<i>London International</i>]	4
--	---

EAST AFRICA

Ethiopia

Council of Representatives Approves 1995 Budget [<i>Addis Ababa Radio</i>]	5
Somali Region Adopts New Name [<i>Addis Ababa Radio</i>]	5

Kenya

Sudanese-Kenyan Ministerial Committee Meets	5
Sudan's Taha on Peace Efforts [<i>SUNA</i>]	5
Moi Receives Message From Al-Bashir [<i>Nairobi Radio</i>]	6
Meeting Ends; Communique Issued [<i>KNA</i>]	6
Foreign Minister Holds Speaks to Foreign Media [<i>KNA</i>]	6
Government Accuses Safina Party of Subversion [<i>Nairobi Radio</i>]	7

Somalia

Osman Atto, 20 Others Arrested in Nairobi [<i>London International</i>]	7
Kenyan President Moi Meets With Atto [<i>AFP</i>]	8

Tanzania

Pledge Made With Iran To Enhance Cooperation [<i>Zanzibar Radio</i>]	9
--	---

Uganda

Masaka Mayor Remanded in Prison on Fraud Charges [<i>Kampala Radio</i>]	9
---	---

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister, President Hold 'Cordial' Talks [<i>Niamey Radio</i>]	23
Leaders Agree To Work Together [<i>Paris International</i>]	24
President Ousmane on Ongoing Crisis [<i>Libreville Radio</i>]	24

Nigeria

Obasanjo's Lawyer Arrested After News Conference [<i>London International</i>]	24
Official on Reduction of Sentences [<i>London International</i>]	25

Senegal

Five Soldiers Killed in Ambush Near Ziguinchor [<i>AFP</i>]	26
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Cameroon

Unrest With Political Undertone Reported in North

AB2707102595 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 26 Jul 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] For some time, there have been reports of unrest in Northern Cameroon, much of it with a political undertone. The north is generally regarded as a stronghold of support for the opposition UNDP [National Union for Democracy and Progress] party, led by Bello Bouba Maigari. Now the international organization against censorship, Article 19, has published a report that traditional rulers in the region are being used by the government to harass and intimidate opposition political activists. Nick Slatter asked Lynda Kirshky of Article 19 in what way the opposition was being intimidated by traditional rulers.

[Begin recording] [Kirshky] Well, in some cases they have been expected to perform forced labor and this is a common problem, but it has also been a punishment for political activists who have been detained. Forced marriage is a very common phenomenon as well, and people who try to protest against this have been beaten.

[Slatter] So, what's the reaction of the local people in the north to the traditional rulers? Do they stand up to what is being done or do they go along with what they are instructed to do?

[Kirshky] There are many cases of people who clearly have been very outspoken and very courageous. The problem is that the traditional authorities are imposing their power through the use of force or through their own guards (?who are armed and who retaliate) against these (?waves of) arrests, beatings, and so forth. In the cases of people who have tried to protest there have been severe reprisals.

[Slatter] Why would they abuse their own people?

[Kirshky] They are figures who have tremendous power in the communities and who are not elected or appointed in any type of democratic way and who have very strong influence over matters within the community—for example, land dispute—and this is a way of imposing absolute authority based on force.

[Slatter] So, it is a power issue, so much as they are carrying out political ambitions. Is it just local power?

[Kirshky] It seems to be both. For example, in the area of Revuba we have received reports that nine people are still in detention, illegal detention. All those people are political activists of the UNDP party.

[Slatter] But what happens? How was the mechanics of this all carried out? Does the government get in touch locally? Just how does it work?

[Kirshky] It is not clear how it works in terms of the abuses. All we know is that the government appoints them, personally, has failed to dismiss any traditional leaders on human rights grounds; that even in cases where they have been taken to court, the government has on occasions interfered with the judicial process. In one case, the public prosecutor said he was not going to (?continue) with a case because he could not receive permission from the Ministry of Justice.

[Slatter] So, all this is fundamentally a power issue. The northern area basically supports the party run by Bello Bouba Maigari who is a big opponent to the government. So, the UNDP party stepped into this argument?

[Kirshky] Yes, they have. For example in the area of Revuba [words indistinct] the three members of the National Assembly elected for this area are UNDP members. They have systematically denounced these abuses. They themselves are targets of abuse. They are not allowed to move freely within this area, to move in their constituencies, to have meetings. However, their concerns and their allegations have now been.... [Kirshky pauses] the government has now responded to their allegations.

[Slatter] How will you describe the level of tension in the north because of this?

[Kirshky] It is extremely tense. [end recording]

'Heavy' Military Presence Reported

AB2607200595 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 26 Jul 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government of President Paul Biya in Cameroon has been trying to screw the lid back on rising discontent in the anglophone southwest of the country. Recently, a delegation of the Southern Cameroon National Council, SCNC, which advocates autonomy for the region, came back from a visit to the United Nations and received a hero's welcome from local people. The authorities did nothing, but now they have had a double-think, decided things had gone much too far, and have begun a severe clampdown, as Victor Epie Ngome reports from Douala.

[Begin Ngome recording] The Southwest Province is now virtually in a state of emergency. Buea, its headquarters and capital of what was Southern Cameroon before the 1961 plebiscite, is now streaming with troops.

So is the port town of Limbi, and the small junction town of Mutengene on the way to Douala. Travelers from Buea said there is an Army check virtually every 5 km.

The heavy military presence follows an order by the local governor, Peter Oben Achu, banning all meetings by the SCNC in the Southwest Province. The ban appears to be Governor Oben's effort to redeem himself for what now appears to have been the mistake of allowing the SCNC delegation to be welcomed the way they were in the Southwest Province. He is now trying to prevent any further contact between SCNC leaders and the local population.

SCNC chairman, Barrister (Sam Ekontang Elas), told me this afternoon that the chief in (?Sasso) division invited his delegation to speak to them about the southern Cameroon's cause. That meeting would have held in Limbi yesterday, but troops were given firm orders not to allow any of the SCNC leaders to get to Limbi. Last week, the government convened a meeting of the southwest chiefs in Kumba to persuade them against the SCNC campaigns. SCNC spokesman, Dr. Mounzu, was arrested on his way to Kumba to prevent him from getting in contact with the chiefs. Another man was arrested because one of his names coincided with a name on the proscription list given to the gendarmes.

The SCNC says that no ban and no troops can stop the consciousness of their cause from spreading. Southern Cameroonians, they say, need no sensitizing because they all feel the victimization and marginalization in their own flesh. [end recording]

Rwanda

German Foreign Minister Arrives in Kigali

AB2607082595 Paris AFP in English
1634 GMT 25 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, 25 Jul (AFP) — German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel arrived in Kigali Tuesday [25 July] for a four-day visit during which he will meet with President Pasteur Bizimungu and other government leaders.

Kinkel is also expected to meet Vice President and Defense Minister Paul Kagame and Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu.

He will also hold meetings with representatives of the United Nations secretary general and the international tribunal set up to try Rwandans suspected of acts of genocide in last year's civil war, officials said.

In addition, Kinkel will visit the church of Ntarama, about 10 kilometres (six miles) from Kigali, where some 5,000 people were killed last year.

A German foreign ministry spokesman said last week that Kinkel would make Rwanda the focal point of his tour of Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi, which is aimed at facilitating reconciliation efforts between Hutu and Tutsi people in the region racked by ethnic hatred.

Kinkel arrived in Tanzania Monday and visited the Benaco camp in the northwest of the country, which shelters more than 200,000 Rwandan and Burundian refugees.

At least 500,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were massacred in Rwanda last year during a civil war unleashed by the death of Hutu president Juvenal Habyarimana.

Promises Continued Aid

EA2607175395 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English
1833 GMT 25 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The already existing good cooperation between the Governments of Rwanda and the Federal Republic of Germany is to be strengthened more. This was disclosed by the German vice chancellor and minister for foreign affairs, Klaus Kinkel, on his arrival at Kanombe International Airport this evening. [passage omitted]

Mr. Kinkel revealed that his tour to some African countries was aimed at giving him a clear picture of the problems of Africa. He further said that he had come to Rwanda after visiting the Rwandan refugee camp of (Benako) in Tanzania which, he said, is symbolic of the regional problems. It is such problems that Klaus Kinkel is to discuss with Rwandan Government top officials, the president inclusive.

In an interview with Radio Rwanda, the German vice chancellor disclosed that Germany was to continue assisting Rwanda directly or through organizations in which Germany is a member, such as the European Union. He further said that the German Government was saddened by what happened in Rwanda but expressed gratitude for the already taken positive steps by the national government of unity in solving some basic problems in the country. [passage omitted]

Kinkel Visits Hutu Refugee Camp

AU2607105595 Cologne Deutschlandfunk Network
in German 0441 GMT 26 Jul 95

[Interview with FRG Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel by Wolfgang Labuhn in Kigali on 25 July — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Labuhn] After his visit [to the Hutu refugee camp of Benaco in Tanzania], the German foreign minister traveled to Kigali, the capital

of Rwanda, where we asked him yesterday evening about his impression of the Benaco camp.

[Kinkel] It is a bad impression of people and above all of a large number of children who fled from their homeland for the obvious reasons and are forced to live there. On the other hand, it is great what the relief organizations, above all the German relief organizations, are doing there: the German Red Cross, which built an excellent hospital under most unfavorable circumstances there, Cap Anamur, the Maltese, and many other nongovernmental organizations. This is really amazing.

However, one's impressions are bad. Yes, I will report on it in Bonn and try to provide further help. Of course, I will also report on it in Brussels. We will also have to provide further help from there.

[Labuhn] In all, how do you assess the supply of the refugees whom you have seen?

[Kinkel] Well, the main problem is, of course, the problem of water. Near the camp there are two small lakes from which water is pumped. It has to go through several filter and purification facilities. By day, water is supplied for four hours. I visited one of these watering places. Well-drilling has also been carried out lately. However, one has to go down to 100 meters to find water. The UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] experts told me that, considering the situation in this camp, they expect water to become a greater problem shortly than is the case at present. The people do not get enough water; they only get 10 liters per day. Normally, they should have 25 liters. One has to envision that there is no electricity, nothing. On the other hand, the whole region is deforested. There is not a tree left. The people there need firewood to heat the water, to clear it, so to speak, of bacteria. It is a bad situation.

[Labuhn] Mr. Kinkel, what should be done to induce these refugees to return to Rwanda, precisely against the background of the increasingly critical situation?

[Kinkel] The people are afraid of returning. They fear that they will be imprisoned and that one will settle up with them for the terrible genocide that took place there. They do not trust the governments in Rwanda and Burundi. This will be the main problem that has to be overcome. I believe that for the time being the attempt can only be made regionally here to come to terms with all countries where there are refugees — Zaire, Tanzania — and to try to rebuild confidence at some kind of regional conference. Of course, this is particularly difficult because the situation tends to become critical again in Burundi. Here in Rwanda, all

the reconstruction measures are just under way and the prisons are full of people who, so to speak, hope for a just sentence, which is also a special problem.

[Labuhn] Mr. Kinkel, what do you think of the request of the new Rwandan leadership in Kigali to ask the refugees to return to Rwanda? As is generally known, it is an administration that is formed by the Tutsi minority and which the Hutus do not really trust.

[Kinkel] It is certainly the case that the Tutsis are in the majority in the government and the Hutu tribe is actually in the majority here in the country. Therefore, these terrible controversies took place. However, I believe that the present government is at any rate trying to cope with the problems, to initiate reconstruction, and to make people forget the terrible things that happened. Obviously, the refugees do not yet have confidence. I do not know how it can be gained overnight. At any rate, we will have to make joint efforts. When one comes to this region, one notices the terrible problems that still exist exactly in the Third World, as well as here in Africa, where the misery is anyway very great. Thus, one realizes only here what a good life one has at home.

[Labuhn] When you talk to the new leadership in Kigali, you will certainly broach the topic of the democratic legitimization of this administration because so far it has only been based on military power. It drove the old Hutu government out of the country last year, but it is not legitimized by democratic elections. Are the FRG Government, the FRG, and the West interested in the establishment of democracy in Rwanda?

[Kinkel] Certainly. Of course, democratic structures have to be developed here. I proceed on the assumption that the leadership here intends to do that. However, it still has to overcome incredible basic problems. I think that we, Germany, have chosen the right way. We are trying to help everywhere. The Europeans are doing the same. Thank God, the United Nations also decided to do so.

On the other hand, of course, one has to expect this government to develop truly democratic structures and to solve the problem of the prisoners in the prisons here, which is very awful, to make a contribution to the return of the refugees, and to build confidence among the refugees in the neighboring countries because they cannot be integrated there. The people there have themselves gigantic problems and cannot cope with this tremendous number of more than 2.5 million refugees.

[Labuhn] If democratic elections were to be held in Rwanda, above all after the return of a larger number of Hutu refugees from Zaire and Tanzania, the present administration would probably lose, simply

because of numerical reasons. This would probably have again unforeseeable consequences. What future political prospect does a country like Rwanda have?

[Kinkel] I am not sure that this would happen in the case of an election because I have the feeling that the people realize at any rate that this government is making efforts. Whether all that goes in the right direction is another matter. It also cannot be easily assessed whether it can go in the right direction after all that has happened.

At any rate, since you are asking about the future, we must try to participate in political efforts to make this country and this region fit for the future. Actually, however, what depresses me most are the incredibly large number of children in these camps and the circumstances under which they live. We must above all provide them with a future. One can only shed tears when one sees what is going on there and how and with what problems they are growing up. It is difficult. I do not have a panacea. I do not know. I did not come here to bring the solution as a *deus ex machina*, so to speak, but I came here to show the people that we have not forgotten Africa, that we have not forgotten this terrible misery, and that they can count on us. I came here to help and to give the people the feeling that we think of them and want to help them.

Zaire

Foreign Minister Denies Closure of Rwanda Border

AB2607172595 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 26 Jul 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The war of words between Zaire and Rwanda is continuing, and has been taken up by Zaire's new foreign minister, Gerard Kamanda

wa Kamanda. Relations between the two countries have been pretty bad ever since the Rwandan refugee crisis began last year. Recently they have been trading allegations of crossborder shelling by their respective armies. Then Rwanda accused the Zairian authorities of preventing refugees from returning to Rwanda. Well, now the new foreign minister has come up with counter challenges. From Kinshasa, Matthew Tostevin reports:

[Begin Tostevin recording] The statement is a blunt denial of Rwanda's accusation that Zaire closed the border, and at the same time accuses the government in Kigali of not stopping new refugees from fleeing into Zaire. The response is the first act of the new foreign minister, Gerard Kamanda wa Kamanda, who was moved to the ministry in the weekend government reshuffle. He takes the job at a time when relations between Rwanda and Zaire are growing increasingly bad as accusations flash back and forth between Kigali and Kinshasa. Just over a week ago, Zaire said soldiers of the Rwandan Army fired on a refugee camp, killing four people. Rwanda has long suspected Zaire of allowing the Hutu former Rwandan Army to rearm and train in the refugee camps, something Zaire has always denied.

In the refugee affected areas, local people complain that refugees have destroyed their economy and environment, and forced Zairians from their homes. Some newspapers in the capital have claimed there is a Rwandan plot to take over eastern Zaire, which may be unrealistic, but it is an expression of a more general antirefugee sentiment. The latest government statement says Zaire has reached the limits of its patience, and suggests that the Rwandan Government set up safe zones inside its own borders to receive the refugees. [end recording]

Ethiopia

Council of Representatives Approves 1995 Budget

EA2607181595 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network
in English 1030 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Council of Representatives has approved a 9,667,849,300-birr budget for fiscal year 1988 Ethiopian calendar [1995-1996]. According to the budget proclamation adopted by the council, a 5,551.79 million-birr budget was allocated for the central government.

The regional administration budget for the same fiscal year is 4,115.5 million birr. Three billion, four hundred and eighty million, eight hundred and forty-nine thousand and three hundred [3,480,849,300] birr was allocated as a recurrent budget while 3,143 million birr was allocated as capital budget. The government would make every effort to curb inflationary tendencies that might arise in the course of the budget year.

The budget allocation to the regions with such factors as population size, level of economic development in the capacity the specific region to generate its own financial incomes. [sentence as heard] Accordingly, Oromia Region has secured 1,131 million birr budget, while the Amhara Region received 863 million birr, and the Southern People's Region 682 million birr.

Somali Region Adopts New Name

EA2607181995 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network
in English 1030 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The founding congress of the Council of Region Five [Somali Region] is under way in Jijiga town after electing members of the presidium. According to reports reaching the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY, 76 of the 100 MP's [member of the federal parliament] plus deputies [MP's of regional administrations] are attending the congress.

Members of the West Somali Democratic Party, and the Ogaden Liberation Front who won the election in Auareh, Dagahabur, (Deloba), and (Shillabo) constituencies are among the deputies who do not attend the congress.

Meanwhile, the congress has approved the region's name as the Somali Regional National State. According to the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY, during its deliberations yesterday, the congress ratified six articles of the regional state constitution. The congress said that the Somali Regional State is bordered by the Oromia and Afar Regional States, and Djibouti, Somalia, and Kenya. The congress opted [for] Jijiga to be [the capital] city for the regional government, and [for the] Somali language [to] be the working language of the state.

Kenya

Sudanese-Kenyan Ministerial Committee Meets

Sudan's Taha on Peace Efforts

EA2607213295 Khartoum SUNA in English
1731 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nairobi, 26 Jul (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha Tuesday [25 July] briefed Kenyan and foreign pressmen on the efforts being exerted by Sudan Government for [word indistinct] peace and putting an end to the war in southern Sudan as well as pushing forward the development process and strengthening relations with the neighbouring countries and the international community.

Meanwhile Taha who is currently here leading Sudan delegation to the meeting of the Sudanese Kenyan ministerial committee said Sudan which will next year celebrate the 40th anniversary of its independence is facing different problems adding that the national salvation revolution is engaged in serious efforts to solve these problems. He referred to practical steps adopted by the salvation revolution for implementing federalism to ensure popular participation in government and the rebuilding of the Sudan.

Taha also pointed to the government efforts toward realizing peace from within and resettlement of the returnees from the outlaws movement.

He underlined that Sudan is a country with different cultures religions and ethnicities affirming that this diversity is a source of strength.

Speaking on Shari'ah Taha pointed out that implementation of Shar'iah has been the demand of the Sudanese people affirming that the Islamic Shari'ah could contribute effectively to the new world order because it does not contradict with other religions.

He attributed the current deadlock of the IGADD [Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development] peace initiative to the fact that the initiative did not take into consideration the issues agreed upon by the government and the outlaws movement in the past rounds of peace talks.

Taha explained that presentation of the outlaws movement to the issue of self determination which meant separation was the major cause behind suspension of the peace talks process. The government will never accept division of Sudan into separate countries but it is ready to discuss implementation of a government formula which guarantees the unity of the Sudan and peaceful coexistence among its people Taha said

He stated that the issue of separation between the state and religion could not be a point of conflict between the government and the outlaws sides because the south of Sudan is exempted from implementation of Islamic Shari'ah laws.

The minister stressed that there is no relation between Islam and terrorism adding that the current violence at some Islamic [word indistinct] was an outcome of oppression inflicted on the Muslims there. Jihad is not a call for violence but one aimed at defending the Muslim and his society, Taha said explaining that Islam has been characterized over centuries by its call for peace and coexistence among religions.

He indicated that the former U.S. President Jimmy Carter is attempting to narrow the difference between the government and the outlaws movement by presenting new proposals related to the issue of self-determination adding that if these proposals were accepted by all parties then the peace talks would be resumed.

Taha has welcomed visits of foreign journalists to Sudan to identify the reality of the situation in the country.

Moi Receives Message From Al-Bashir

AB2607181195 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today at State House, Nairobi, received a special message from the president of the Sudan, 'Umar al-Bashir. The message was delivered by the Sudanese foreign minister, 'Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha.

It was on the IGADD [Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development] sponsored peace initiative in the Sudan, of which [IGADD] President Moi is the chairman. Mr. Taha is attending the ongoing meeting of the Kenya-Sudan joint permanent commission in Nairobi. [passage omitted]

Meeting Ends; Communique Issued

EA2707123595 Nairobi KNA in English 0910 GMT 27 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nairobi, 27 Jul (KNA) — Kenya and Sudan have agreed to form closer bilateral trade, political coordination and regional cooperation through IGADD [Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development]. The agreement was reached last night at the end of the two-day seventh Kenya-Sudan joint ministerial meeting held in Nairobi.

Noting that Africa was undergoing a critical period due to donor fatigue, the two delegations in a communique

stressed the need of pooling resources for faster development. They urged their respective Chambers of Commerce to exchange visits and participate in trade fairs held in both countries. The meeting stressed the need to strengthen road, aid and sea communications between the two countries.

The delegates also cited conflicts and insecurity within and between states as a hindrance to development, and called for concerted efforts to resolve any conflicts. In this regard, the Sudanese delegation led by Foreign Minister Mr. Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha praised President Daniel arap Moi's peace initiative through IGADD to find a lasting peaceful solution to the problem of southern Sudan.

The Kenyan delegation was led by the minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Mr. Kalonzo Musyoka, and included high-ranking government officials from various ministries.

The delegates supported the ongoing measures aimed at voluntary repatriation of refugees. They also called for a regional conference to discuss the refugee issue with a view to finding a global solution.

The next Kenya-Sudan joint ministerial meeting will be held in Khartoum, Sudan next year, they agreed.

Foreign Minister Holds Talks with Foreign Media

EA2607205395 Nairobi KNA in English 1525 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nairobi, 26 Jul (KNA) — Foreign affairs and international cooperation Minister Kalonzo Musyoka today invited foreign correspondents based in Nairobi for an informal dialogue aimed at ironing out what the government and the (foreign) media considered problem areas. The minister said the session was meant to foster mutual understanding between the government and foreign media correspondents, who have persistently portrayed the country's negative image abroad. He said Kenya has been misunderstood for too long due to fabricated and unbalanced journalism and maintained that no country should suffer the disgrace of international interference.

Mr. Musyoka urged the foreign correspondents to check the level of truth in "loud voices" heard in the country however prominent, as some carried a certain measure of ignorance. He said the ministry would look into possibilities of having regular briefings with the foreign media to avoid speculation and disinformation arising in mutual areas of interest. He said that certain people seemed to have forgotten that Kenya had a written Constitution that safeguarded such fundamental issues

as human rights and press freedom, but which were subject to the rule of law.

The chairman of the foreign correspondents' association, Mr. Horace Awori, asked Kenya Government officials to promptly respond to press inquiries to curb negative reportage of Kenya abroad. He said the members of the association were satisfied with press accreditation handled by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, but expressed displeasure at the processing of work permits, which, he said, took too long to finalize. He thanked the minister for initiating the session, saying it was the missing link in ensuring that the foreign correspondents got the right perspective of the government's efforts.

Since the areas of concern to the present foreign media representatives touched on other government officials and ministries, Mr. Musyoka advised the journalists to draw up a list of requirements and promised them that his ministry would intervene where necessary to facilitate better understanding.

Government Accuses Safina Party of Subversion

EA2607202995 *Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1614 GMT 25 Jul 95*

[Government statement issued by Professor Philip Mbithi, permanent secretary to the cabinet, and head of the public service; place and date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government views with a grave concern the declaration in a written clandestine document by the unregistered Safina Party of a plan to launch a campaign of civil disobedience and anarchy in the country. This declaration is tantamount to endangering the existing stability in the social, political, and economic fabric of the Kenyan nation.

The government therefore wishes to inform all law-abiding citizens to be wary of the Safina Party's illegal activities, which include the fomenting of a civil unrest campaign currently being organized countrywide through underground coordinators, promotion of student unrest and demonstrations, especially at the public universities in the country.

As a part of this incitement strategy, students are to be supplied with ample drugs, intoxicants, and cash inducements to win public support, and to cause disaffection against the Kenya Government, disruption of states of normalcy, such as crippling of normal businesses' operations, and public transport through the intimidation or blackmail of matatu [minibus] operators and owners, incitement of local government workers, hawkers and the unemployed against the government, inciting the Muslim community, Kenyan Somalis, and

selected ethnic communities against the government; creation of a state of anarchy and lawlessness to achieve their selfish political interests.

While purporting to be fighting for registration and democracy, Safina intends to unleash lawlessness, and to corrupt Kenyan youth through use of alcohol and drugs. It further intends to sacrifice the youth, workers, and other law-abiding citizens in their evil machinations of promoting chaos in the quest for power.

The government further reiterates its commitment to the rule of law, the protection of life and property, and the continued maintenance of law and order in our society, and would not allow any illegal activities that may endanger public security. The government therefore wishes to inform and caution the public of the existence of clandestine activities being planned and promoted by the unregistered Safina followers. The law-abiding and patriotic Kenyans should go about their businesses peacefully and avoid participating or promoting any illegal activities. In this connection, the government will discharge its full responsibility to protect and defend life and property as provided for in the Kenyan Constitution by dealing with any agents of doom firmly and decisively.

Somalia

Osman Atto, 20 Others Arrested in Nairobi

AB2607200995 *London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 26 Jul 95*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Somali businessman and politician Osman Ali Atto has run into some trouble in Kenya. Osman Atto was once a backer of General Aidid's SNA [Somali National Alliance] faction. Recently, he withdrew that support and has assumed the leadership of the USC [United Somali Congress]-SNA, while Gen. Aidid has declared himself president of Somalia, and has been setting up a government and recruiting an army. Kenya was about the only country to give any recognition to Aidid at this year's OAU summit, and now there are reports that Osman Atto has been picked up in Nairobi. Elizabeth Ohene asked our Nairobi correspondent, Louise Tambridge, what she had managed to find out about the arrest of Atto:

[Begin recording] [Tambridge] Mr. Osman Atto has a house in Nairobi on the airport road, and he lives there with his wife and some six children, and a number of other family members. One of his granddaughters told me that police came to the house last night, and they arrested Osman Atto, and took him away with about

20 other Somali. Some of them were relatives, some of them were merely neighbors, and they didn't say what they were charging him with, and they also made a thorough search of the house.

[Ohene] Did they tell you if the police said anything?

[Tambridge] No, the police gave no indication as to why they were making the arrest, which has left the family rather confused and upset. (It was just) recently they managed to locate which police station he is being held in. Not until just now, they had no idea where he was being held. They found he is at Musangari police station. They haven't been allowed to see him. Still there is no news as to why he is being held.

[Ohene] Have the Kenyan police said anything?

[Tambridge] No. A senior police spokesman said that he had no idea that this had happened. He went on to say that Somalis are quite frequently arrested, and he didn't seem to be surprised but, of course, this arrest is rather more significant, perhaps, than many others.

[Ohene] And, indeed, Mr. Osman Ali Atto is quite a big player in the Somali political front. Now, why do you think the Kenyans [words indistinct] want to do something like that?

[Tambridge] At the moment, we don't know. Of course, Osman Atto is well known as the former financier of the warlord, Gen. Aidid. Gen. Aidid and Osman Atto have gone their separate ways recently. They now seem to be in separate camps, and Kenya's President Moi has made it clear on whose side he stands. At the recent OAU summit in Addis Ababa, he said that Gen. Aidid's election as Somali president was a step in the right direction.

[Ohene] You say that Mr. Osman Ali Atto has a house in Nairobi, so I take it that he spends much of his time in Nairobi.

[Tambridge] He has been a fairly frequent visitor here for some time, and he also had an accident involving a land mine. He had a serious leg injury. When he is in Nairobi, he usually has treatment at Nairobi Hospital, so he is not an unfamiliar face here at all. [end recording]

Kenyan President Moi Meets With Atto

AB2707122095 Paris AFP in English
1101 GMT 27 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nairobi, 27 Jul (AFP) — Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi met with Somali warlords in Nairobi Thursday [27 July] after they were taken in for questioning by police Wednesday.

South Mogadishu faction leader Osman Hassan Ali "Atto" told AFP that Moi intervened personally to secure his release Wednesday night.

Osman Atto, who was financier to General Mohamed Farah Aidid but broke with him early this year, said police broke up a meeting of faction leaders at his Nairobi house Wednesday and took the participants to a police station for interrogation after a report that Kenyans were at the meeting.

That report was unfounded, he said.

A presidential spokesman said all Somali factions were represented at the meeting with Moi except for those headed by Aidid and Mohamed Ibrahim Egal, the self-styled "president" of breakaway Somaliland, in the north.

Moi told participants to inform the government in advance of any plans for meetings, the spokesman said, and also told them he did not want to see differences among Somali factions extended to Kenya, and cautioned them against seeking support from outside countries.

Moi created a furore at the Organization of African Unity summit in Addis Ababa last month when he said Aidid had taken a step in the right direction by forming a "government" and called on his chief rival, north Mogadishu warlord Ali Mahdi Mohamed, who also styles himself "interim president," to support him.

That speech hit Mogadishu with a bang, with Aidid's supporters firing shots in the air and shouting: "We are finally recognised as a government."

But Moi backtracked almost immediately, declaring after other warlords said Aidid commanded the support of only two percent of the population that Kenya did not support any individual or politician in Somalia.

He reaffirmed that statement Thursday, adding that the problems of Somalia, which has been without a government since the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991, were best solved by Somalis alone, the spokesman said.

Osman Atto asked Moi to establish a liaison office for Somalia in Nairobi.

He told AFP the meeting had been "positive," and that the faction leaders were seeking a formula to unify factions in Kenya, which houses some 300,000 Somalis.

"I am sure that he (Moi) will do everything he can to see Somalia reestablished as a nation," Osman Atto said.

Tanzania

Pledge Made With Iran To Enhance Cooperation

EA2707135295 *Zanzibar Voice of Tanzania*
in Swahili 1900 GMT 26 (rpt 26) Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Tanzania and Iran have expressed the intention to enhance cooperation in various fields of development. The pledge was made today at State House, in Zanzibar, when Iran's deputy foreign minister, Mr. Muhammad Hashemi Rafsanjani, met Zanzibar's president, Dr. Salmin Amour. During their discussions, the president of Zanzibar and the deputy foreign minister of Iran praised the long-standing relations between the two countries, and called for their further perpetuation and consolidation for the benefit of the two sides.

Zanzibar's president, Dr. Salmin Amour, told his guest that the existing relations can be perpetuated through the exchange of experiences, technology and capital with the aim of promoting the levels of income of citizens and the national economy. He said that as a result of the great stride of development achieved by Iran, Tanzania can learn a lot from its brother, particularly as a result of that country's striving to assist developing countries in the African continent. Dr. Amour called on Iran to continue to assist the African continent, which he said is still faced with many social and economic problems.

Minister Rafsanjani stressed the issue of consolidating the strong unity of developing countries, and promised that his country would continue to fulfill the responsibility placed on it for assisting young countries. Apart from the discussions on cooperation, the two leaders also discussed various international issues.

Uganda

Masaka Mayor Remanded in Prison on Fraud Charges

EA2707133095 *Kampala Radio Uganda Network*
in English 0700 GMT 27 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The mayor of Masaka [south-eastern Uganda] municipality, (Gerald Ssemogerere), has been further remanded in prison in connection with several charges brought against him involving fraud, altering false documents and obtaining money by fraudulent means.

The mayor was arrested by police in his office last Friday [21] July 1995 and committed to court before a grade one magistrate in Masaka, Mrs. (Gladys Nakibule Kisekka), who sent him on remand till Tuesday to enable police to complete their investigations in the alleged charges.

Cabinet Approves 'Staggered' Local Elections

*MB2607163295 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1622 GMT 26 Jul 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg July 26 SAPA — The local government elections will go ahead in all provinces on November 1, but areas where demarcation problems exist could apply for exemption, Cabinet decided on Wednesday. Exempted areas would hold elections in the first quarter of next year, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer told a press briefing at the Union Buildings in Pretoria. "Both the Constitution and the Local Government Transition Act will need to be amended to allow for staggered elections," Meyer said.

Officials Outline Plan

*MB2607175795 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1747 GMT 26 Jul 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg July 26 SAPA — The local government elections will go ahead in all provinces on November 1 as scheduled, but areas where demarcation problems exist can apply for exemption, the cabinet decided on Wednesday. Exempted areas would hold elections in the first quarter of next year, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer told a press briefing at the Union Buildings in Pretoria after a cabinet meeting.

"Both the Constitution and the Local Government Transition Act will need to be amended to allow for staggered elections," Meyer said. The constitution presently states that local government elections in all areas have to take place on the same day.

An announcement on when exempted areas would go to the polls would be made before November. Whether or not postponed elections would all take place on the same day still had to be determined.

Meyer said the government would take steps against areas neglecting to apply properly for exemption as well as those which did not qualify for a delay. These would include "removing demarcation disputes from their hands" and entrusting them to resolution mechanisms such as the special electoral court. Applications by problem areas would have to be well-motivated and would be submitted through provincial premiers to the minister.

"Elections will be staggered on local-authority-by-local-authority basis, and not a province-to-province basis," Meyer said.

Cabinet resolved that "serious attempts should be made to increase the number of local authorities and the

overall percentage of the electorate participating in the election".

About 75 percent of local areas comprising 70 percent of voters would be ready to hold elections on November 1, Meyer said.

He said political parties in the greater Johannesburg metropolitan area, where demarcation problems existed, were optimistic of still meeting the scheduled deadline. The Local Government Elections Task Group also believed this was possible, co-chairman Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert said.

Meyer said a political solution should be attempted to resolve the Cape metropolitan boundary dispute.

The 46 transitional council areas in KwaZulu/Natal should be "delinked" from the Durban metropolitan area dispute, as well as disagreements over the incorporation of tribal areas in certain parts of the province.

Slabbert said the scheduled timetable for the November 1 elections would be the main guideline in deciding whether exemption should be granted or refused.

Asked about the deadline for applications, Meyer said: "It is more or less now, but we want to allow for some flexibility and no cut-off date has been laid down." This would, for example, give the Johannesburg metropolitan area room to adjust its timescale for election preparations.

Cabinet Secretary Jakes Gerwel said Cabinet's resolutions gave only a broad outline of how the local government elections should be handled. The specific procedures would be devised by Meyer in conjunction with the Elections Task Group.

Meyer said he had informed Cabinet of the absence of KwaZulu/Natal representatives at Tuesday's meeting of his ministry and provincial MECs [members of the Executive Council] on the local government elections. "According to our information they had instructions not to be present."

ANC, National Party Welcome Decision

*MB2707075995 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in Afrikaans 0500 GMT 27 Jul 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The cabinet's decision to go ahead with the local elections in all provinces on 1 November has been welcomed by the African National Congress and the National Party. The Democratic Party is opposed, however, saying that the voters rolls were unsatisfactory and voter education neglected. The cabinet's decision clears the way for staggered elections in areas that have not yet settled border disputes.

The ANC says the decision is realistic and in the country's best interest. The organization's National Executive Committee has directed its working committee to pursue talks with all parties to resolve these disputes in Gauteng, KwaZulu/Natal, and the Western Cape. A debate is to be held in the Western Cape provincial Parliament today to discuss the metropolitan border dispute, and Premier Hennis Kriel and ANC leader Chris Nissen are both expected to participate. Both the ANC and the National Party say they are confident that the problems in the greater Gauteng area will be sorted out before the elections.

Democratic Party Criticizes Delay

MB2607122795 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1205 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town July 26 SAPA — The Democratic Party [DP] on Wednesday criticized a recommendation by provincial MECs [member of the Executive Council] to go ahead with staggered, municipality-by-municipality local government elections.

Municipal boundary disputes in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban threaten to delay the elections, set for November 1. DP chief whip Douglas Gibson said in a statement in Cape Town the provinces were far from ready for elections. Voter rolls were unsatisfactory and voter education had been neglected. Few understood how the new local government system would work. "It is not surprising that the African National Congress is happy to proceed on a staggered basis. They had their worst results in Gauteng, Western Cape and KwaZulu/Natal."

Gibson said the National Party's support for the MECs' recommendation contradicted statements by its chief representative on the National Multiparty Liaison Committee, Jacko Maree, who had publicly backed the DP's call for the elections to be postponed.

KwaZulu/Natal Official Supports Nov Vote

MB2607170895 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1628 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban July 26 SAPA — Local government elections should go ahead on November 1 as scheduled in most KwaZulu/Natal areas, Local Government and Housing MEC [Member of the Executive Council] Peter Miller said on Wednesday. In a statement Miller reversed Tuesday's call for the postponement of local elections in the province due to ward delimitation and boundary disputes. Instead, he recommended elections should take place in local authorities prepared for the electoral process. "Subject to discus-

sions with my cabinet colleagues, who have at all times supported the idea of elections on November 1, I will recommend that local authorities which are ready and able to have elections on November 1 be encouraged to do so, and that other local authorities hold elections at staggered intervals thereafter as and when they become ready."

Spokesman for the KwaZulu/Natal Local Government and Housing Department Warwick Dorning said Miller's turn-around was an attempt to promote national consensus in local election policy. "In the interests of national unity he (Miller) sees merit in staging local elections according to the policy of the national ministry," Dorning said.

Miller on Tuesday called for a postponement of local elections on the basis of a report into the feasibility of elections in KwaZulu/Natal. The report showed only 7.88 percent of the province's three million registered voters would be able to vote.

This was largely because 16 of the province's 61 transitional local councils — including the most populous areas of KwaZulu/Natal — would not be officially proclaimed by the July 31 deadline date. The proclamation is required in terms of the local government transition act.

On Wednesday, however, Miller said elections would nevertheless be possible in the majority of local government areas, despite these areas representing less than 10 percent of registered voters. "In subsequent telephone calls with the national ministry, however, I see merit in following what will apparently be the national approach — namely to allow local authorities to go ahead with elections the moment they are ready," Miller said.

He also accused the African National Congress of launching a "smear tactic" by accusing the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] of attempting to delay the local elections. "The IFP is in fact itching to go to the polls in order to consolidate its position at local government level."

Miller's announcement tied in with a cabinet decision of Wednesday that local government elections go ahead in all provinces on November 1, except in areas where demarcation problems existed. Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said such areas could apply for exemption.

Opposition Parties Said Ineffective Against ANC*Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 2 Jun 95 p 8*

[Commentary by Tim du Plessis: "One-Party State: Who Will Oppose the ANC?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Those sentries in Sionsmure who after last year's elections took it upon themselves to warn us about all the dangers that lie ahead have discovered a new threat: a one-party state.

South Africa is now well on its way to becoming a one-party state, based on the African model. The ANC will win election after election, as in Zimbabwe, where Mr. Robert Mugabe just won his fifth and easiest election yet.

Namibia is on the same course, they say, noting with wide-eyed wonder that this is now also South Africa's destiny.

In their book, of course, this is the ANC's fault. Indeed, everything is.

As if there is a governing party in the Western democracies that they admire so much that will purposefully and unselfishly arrange things so that there are opposition parties that can make everything difficult for it. Or even take over power from it.

No, the blame for the prospect of a one-party state rests primarily with the country's existing opposition parties—the NP [National Party], Inkatha, the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], and the DP [Democratic Party]. It is they who in the early stages of our democracy showed the voters that not one of them even remotely resembles a party that could take power from the ANC.

To tell the truth, they appear not to even have any desire to do so. The NP is busy withdrawing into a Western Cape cocoon. Nothing illustrates this better than Messrs. Hernus Kriel and Peter Marais's UDI [expansion not given] on the local elections in the Cape metropolitan areas.

Even more significant is the blind support that they received from Nationalists in other provinces. That actually only indicates that the NP does not even want to try to be effective outside the Western Cape and that the NP was a very short-lived convert to the politics of consensus.

Just as the NP has lost its desire for the politics of consensus, it has also obviously lost its yearning to become a party that can be acceptable to the majority of South Africans: blacks. In other words, a party that could one day take power.

This is something of a pity, because there is another lesson from the Zimbabwe experience that is apparently not being noticed at all. In 1990, after 10 years of Robert Mugabe, a sense of irritation emerged among that country's voters that made them receptive to another party, such as ZANU-PF [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front].

But what were their choices at the time? Ian Smith and Edgar Tekere. One unacceptable to blacks and the other unacceptable to whites. Both worn out and lacking credibility.

Something else that has been overlooked is South Africa's emerging black property-owning middle class. In 10 years, such people could be ready for the picking by a party with the NP's sort of ideas. But with its current image as a party that seems to be able or willing to promote only the interests of whites, it will not be easy for them to vote NP. Moreover, its leadership is still white, Afrikaner, and for the most part uninspiring. Even a change of name, which is long overdue, will not help much.

So, where will we be 10 years from now, or even sooner, when voter irritation with the ANC begins to emerge? The catchment basin for opposition votes will probably be an NP, led by Hernus Kriel, hermetically sealed off in the Western Cape. Ditto for Inkatha, which decided to retreat to Zululand long before the NP made its decision.

The back-to-the-womb syndrome of the NP and Inkatha is bad for the country. This is because for lack of strong opposition parties other institutions—such as the media, the legal system, the business community, and civic organizations—must now play the traditional role of an opposition in a democracy.

This will put them under pressure that they do not deserve. There are already signs of this, such as the attacks on the media, the legal system, and the business community from ANC ranks, as being under white control and hostile to black interests.

It is also not their basic function to oppose the government around the clock. Each of the institutions in question has its own place and role in an open, democratic society. If they must assume the role of an opposition party, then that will by necessity cut into their real function.

The question is whether it is true democrats who are so concerned about the prospect of a one-party state. Are we not dealing here with the practitioners of power politics from the old school, who take the easy way out to stake out a claim to power in a smaller corner of the country rather than tackling the difficult and demanding

job of first internal renewal and later convincing the voters?

And who beat the old, well-known ethnic drums in order to achieve their objectives?

True democrats will realize that it is primarily their task to see to it that there are viable—repeat, viable—opposition parties. The ANC will not be helping them with this.

It is no use blaming the ANC for the lack of opposition parties. Instead, take advantage of its one-party mentality to ensure that they do come into being.

Cuban Group Protests Outside U.S. Consulate

MB2607193595 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television Network in English 1900 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A group of protesters staged a placard demonstration outside the United States Consulate in Durban against the economic blockade of Cuba. The peaceful picket was part of a nationwide campaign by the South Africa/Cuba Friendship Association and the Communist Party to force the U.S.A. to abandon its economic embargo of its southern neighbor.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] The protesters voiced their objections by shouting slogans denouncing foreign interference in the internal affairs of Cuba. The South African/Cuba Friendship Association and the Communist Party are convinced that their action will have a marginal impact on future U.S./Cuba relations. The representative of the America mission accepted a memorandum by the protesters but declined to respond to their demands. [end recording]

ANC Statement Expresses Solidarity

MB2607135595 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1311 GMT 26 Jul 95

[Statement issued by the ANC in Johannesburg on 26 July on the SAPA PR Wire Service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On this very important day and occasion of the Cuban people, the ANC wishes to once more express its solidarity with Cuban people in their struggle to exercise their right to self determination.

The ANC also wishes to salute the Cuban people for the immense role they have played in the national liberation struggle both in South Africa and the southern African region as a whole. Without the internationalism and sacrifice of the Cuban people and its government in supporting progressive national movements in our region, we possibly would not have reached the historic victory of April 27, 1994.

The ANC also takes this opportunity to once more thank the Cuban people for the support they gave to our comrades in exile. The Cuban Government selflessly sacrificed their own precious physical, financial and human resources to ensure that our members in exile were fed, provided with basic necessities, as well as opportunities to further their education. The people and the Government of Cuba remain a shining example of practical solidarity to oppressed peoples of our continent.

On this occasion we also wish to express our solidarity with Cuban people in the light of continued blockade by the United States. We call upon the USA to allow the people of Cuba to freely develop as a nation, and to immediately lift the blockade. The US Government is maintaining this blockade despite the fact that it has been strongly condemned internationally. Also, an increasing number of US citizens themselves have called for the lifting of the blockade.

We also wish to assure the government and the people of Cuba that in the ANC they have an unwavering ally in its struggle for self-determination without foreign interference.

'Hundreds' Fleeing Violence in KwaZulu/Natal

MB2607193295 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1600 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hundreds of people are reported to be fleeing Izingolweni on the KwaZulu/Natal south coast, following an outbreak of violence in the area. The police say more than 20 people have been killed in the area since the beginning of the month. A police spokesman says talks are being held between the ANC and IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] to try and end the conflict.

New Group To Fight Colored Discrimination

MB2607151995 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1355 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town July 26 SAPA — A new organisation which will seek to forge a sense of identity among coloureds and promote their interests was announced at a press conference in Delft, near Bellville, on Wednesday. The Forum, a non-political and non-sectarian group, has set itself the task of preventing the marginalisation of the coloured community. Its supporters include provincial parliamentarians Prof Richard van der Ross and Joe Marks, poet and academic Prof Adam Small, former Labour Party Chairman Chris April and a number of local town councillors, businessmen and educationists.

The forum's draft manifesto said coloureds were being marginalised and discriminated against in the new political order. "In custom and practice we see daily evidence of discrimination against us. There is therefore a need for a forum, place or organisation where the necessary vigilance can be maintained."

Van der Ross, retired rector of the University of the Western Cape, said the Forum welcomed members of all political parties, religious movements and other organisations. He said the Forum, which will be formally launched later, was opposed to a coloured "volkstaat" [homeland] and rejected the paramilitary style of the Coloured Resistance Movement.

The Forum also rejected racism, and its activities did not represent a return to apartheid when groups were defined and created for the sole purpose of discriminating against them. "We in the Forum believe the way to the future is through a process of self-evaluation, self-examination and self-consciousness. We believe there is only one South African nation, but we want to play a fully-fledged role in that nation."

ANC Wants De Klerk Charged With Fraud in Arms Deals

*MB2607201695 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1818 GMT 26 Jul 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg July 26 SAPA — Deputy President F W de Klerk and members of the previous government's cabinet should be charged with fraud and theft along with former Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] official Marius Vermaak, the African National Congress said in a statement on Wednesday.

The ANC said in a statement it supported the recommendations of the Cameron Commission of Inquiry into Armscor's arms deals. The report showed that de Klerk had employed double standards despite his claim that he was unaware of "clandestine activities" under the previous government, the ANC said.

According to the report, Armscor's top management and the previous National Party cabinet should be held accountable for arms deals with a Lebanese arms dealer. Some of the weapons involved in illegal deals could have ended up in South African townships "to bolster the so-called third force", the ANC said.

Armscor should also become more transparent regarding issues that have a direct bearing on the public, the ANC said.

Land Purchase Bill Seen as 'Ethnic Cleaning'

*95AF0129A Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans
9-15 Jun 95 p 8*

[Commentary by Hannes Ferguson: "Hanekom's 'Ethnic Cleansing'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The draft legislation that Derek Hanekom, in his capacity as minister of land affairs, has submitted to parliament is nothing other than an initial step in the application of the principle of "ethnic cleansing," which the ANC has committed itself to in the countryside. Its premise is that farmers have to be driven off their land for no other reason other than the fact that they are white. The countryside is to be made uniformly black, and the target of 30 percent of white land that the ANC reportedly wants to take is merely an initial installment. In addition to the murderous attacks on whites on their farms—something that is beginning to become routine—the ANC wants to achieve its goal with the aid of the law. Basically, however, this is nothing other than the brutal "ethnic cleansing" that Serbians, Muslims, and Croats apply in the formerly multiethnic nation of Yugoslavia in order to seize each other's land.

Ostensibly at issue are the "tenant farm laborers" in northern Natal and in the Eastern Transvaal, a system in which black farm workers are not paid with cash but with sharecropping and grazing rights. That practice was declared illegal as long ago as Dr. Verwoerd's time because it promotes black acquisition of white farmland, and, furthermore, it represents a wasteful use of farmland. Since then it has been customary to pay farm workers with cash or, at the request and insistence of the blacks themselves, to allow them to keep a specific number of animals and to receive the crops from a certain plot plus their housing. The system in which black farm workers thus get cash wages plus grazing and sharecropping rights plus housing is still frequently found. Whether Hanekom regards a black whose cash portion of his wages amounts to 30 rands [R] per month to be a tenant farm laborer but considers another whose cash wage bears a different relationship to his grazing and sharecropping rights—who gets R80 in cash per month, for example—not to be a tenant farm laborer, it is, after all, a way for the ANC to give a large percentage of them property rights on a portion of the farmer's land at the farmer's expense. Hanekom then has only to publish a proclamation, and the affected farmers will find themselves in the first stage of being driven off their land.

The stipulation that a worker whose father also worked for the farmer in question and lived in the same house is thereby entitled to ownership rights to the house and to

a portion of the farmer's land is barbaric and ridiculous. If your father worked for ISCOR [South African Iron and Steel Corporation] and lived in an ISCOR house and you followed in his footsteps, are you then entitled to ISCOR shares? What about the police? Today there are many policemen who are the third generation to service in the police force. Are they, jointly and separately, the real proprietors of the police force or a part of it? The ANC allegedly merely wishes to "restore" the blacks' property rights: In Jan Van Riebeeck's time, there were supposedly only blacks in the country and the "conclusion" is thus that the whites "stole" the land from them. The fact that wandering bushmen inhabited most parts of the country before the whites came here to live and not blacks does not count. The fact that the trekkers settled their land in a region devoid of human habitation and did not drive out anyone or any group does not count either.

And the cunning deception with which the whole thing is being applied! The black worker who wants a portion of his boss' farm need only submit a petition at the magistrate's office, the petition is then "posted" on some announcement board; and, when the farmer, who perhaps did not have a inkling of this, comes to pick it up, his land has already been "redistributed." First the de Klerk government cheated the people out of their country and now the individual farmer is to be cheated out of his land. The National Party's stance is, as usual, two-faced and deceitful. It pretends to be for the farmer but it eased the way for the draft bill in parliament. It is unfortunate that Dr. Ferdi Hartzenberg's position in parliament did not really help much either. By broadly condemning both the system of including grazing and sharecropping rights as part of a farm worker's wages and the ANC, he opened the door for Hanekom to also apply the law to cases where the label of "tenant farm laborer" does not in the least apply.

Viljoen Speaks on Afrikaner Homeland

95AF0131A Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
27 May 95 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Cape Town — General Constand Viljoen, leader of the Freedom Front, said yesterday that the Freedom Front had undergone a transformation on the subject of an ethnically based [Afrikaner] homeland, just as President Mandela had. At a news conference, he welcomed the first interim report on the subject of a homeland by the Homeland Council. Gen. Viljoen said he did not intend to demand at this time that the homeland be sovereign, but that the ideal of sovereignty remains. "Sovereignty has long had a high profile within Afrikaner ranks. The reason for that was the uncertainty before the election."

He said that Afrikaners had viewed the homeland as a place where they could retreat to and be apart from the rest of South Africa. This, however, is not the role that the Freedom Front now foresees for Afrikaners. Sovereignty is not currently a possibility. If the situation in the country were to change in such a way that Afrikaners were to be oppressed and suffer large-scale discrimination, "we would surely want to make use of the international right of secession." Gen. Viljoen said that a homeland cannot be economically viable. It should be a cultural base or area where the true Afrikaner way of life, education, and religion can be practiced and where Afrikaners can have their own radio and television stations. Afrikaners in Mozambique and Angola should know that they too have a base with which they can associate.

He said that many Afrikaners have lost jobs as a result of affirmative action. People that retire at 45, 50, and 55 years of age can still do a lot to benefit their country. The Freedom Front wants them to be employed for the benefit of the entire country. "In order to do this, we as a group wish to have tranquility and know that we have a cultural base where we can always send our children for a uniquely Afrikaner upbringing." He believes that the Freedom Front is advocating the "view of the average Afrikaner." He said that President Mandela has in the past said that a homeland is not possible. Now President Mandela says that he realizes that to promote nation-building, he must accommodate the other groups as well and he is willing to accept a compromise on the issue of a homeland. "President Mandela has categorically stated that he feels that we who have chosen the peaceful instead of conflicting path, must be able to bring back something for our people."

Writer Calls Nigeria, Swazi 'Tin-Pot Dictators'

MB2707074195 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
24 Jul 95 p 8

[Article by Kaizer Nyatumba in the "One in Your Eye" column]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It seems like such a long time ago, but it was a mere five-and-a-half years ago that South Africa — now held up internationally as a model of how a country can transform itself peacefully from a conflict-ridden, race-torn society to a democracy — was a leper among civilised nations of the world.

With a good reason, too.

Just think about it for a moment. Where was South Africa in January 1990? A state of emergency first imposed by former State President P W Botha in 1985 was still in place, organisations such as the United Democratic Front and the Azanian Peoples' Organisation were

restricted, and the ANC, the South African Communist Party and the Pan-Africanist Congress were still proscribed.

F W de Klerk had just assumed the country's presidency, and had immediately relaxed petty apartheid and allowed protest marches, but racial tension was still rife and we were far from the kind of society we are now. Punitive economic sanctions against Pretoria were biting deeply and the economy itself was bleeding badly. And, of course, we were an isolated country.

Now it is all different. South Africa is perennially the flavour of the month, our political leaders are in great demand abroad and we have been fully embraced as a respected member of the international community. This is all positive, but its spinoff is that it confers on us certain obligations and responsibilities.

Nobody in his right mind, I am sure, hankers after the pre-1990 South Africa. Most of us are happy to be citizens of this "New South Africa", whose newness, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder.

Although this was the only country in which racism was constitutionally entrenched, it was by no means the only country with racial problems. Indeed, countries like the United States and Britain, like many others, continue to experience racial tensions and divisions. There were dictatorships in some countries in this continent, in the Americas, in Asia and even in Europe.

Given our recent history, we in this country should be concerned about any disregard for human rights shown by some tin-pot dictators anywhere in the world, but especially on this continent. Why are we folding our arms, for instance, while dictators in Mbabane, Swaziland and Abuja, Nigeria, trample with what appears to be impunity on the rights of people in those countries?

Not far from our borders, young King Mswati III rules the tiny kingdom as though it were his personal fiefdom, trying in vain to control and stage-manage the democratisation process there. The mind boggles at why a young man like Mswati III, even if he is a king, should show such aversion to democracy, preferring instead to cling tenaciously to archaic views and principles.

Political parties are still not officially allowed in that country, and Mswati III has now banned trade unions. He does not appear to be capable of overseeing the on-off democratisation process in Swaziland.

I have news for him: He should change with the times or risk being dumped, together with the institution he represents, into the dustbin of history.

Then there is that military dictator in Nigeria, General Sani Abacha. Although he, like other military dictators

before him in that country which has been plagued by coups d'etat, claimed upon acquiring power that he was going to pave the way for a civilian government, he has yet to do so. Chief Moshood Abiola, putative winner of the recent presidential election in that country, still languishes in jail.

South Africa can no longer afford to fold its arms and watch as the bizarre political drama unfolds in those countries. Yes, we should respect the sovereignty of other countries — even if, in the case of Swaziland, that country is minuscule and largely dependent on us economically — and I am not about to advocate a military invasion of Swaziland or Nigeria.

That we should never do. But we can send a powerful political message that cannot be misunderstood by the demigods in Mbabane and Abuja. We can, for starters, send their High Commissioners in Pretoria back home to demonstrate in a concrete way our strong disapproval of their modern-day dictatorships. We can take a leaf from the book of the international community and impose our own punitive economic sanctions, against the regimes represented by these semi-deities.

We know what it is to be oppressed. We are not impotent — let us do something NOW.

Firms Bid for Australian Army Vehicle Contract

*MB2607135695 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
26 Jul 95 p 10*

[Report by Alan Robinson]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] London — Two South African defence equipment companies are bidding for a contract to supply the Australian army with Infantry Mobility Vehicles (IMVs).

Both Reumech OMC and TFM have entered into partnerships with Australian companies in the race to secure the lucrative deal, code-named Project Bushranger.

According to reports here, the original list of 17 bidders has been whittled down to five — and both SA/Australian combines have survived against stiff competition.

Reumech OMC has linked up with ANI to offer a vehicle based on a Unimog chassis and provisionally named the Taipan, although better known in SA as the Mamba 4 x 4. TFM has gone into partnership with Westrac to offer a vehicle which is based on the RG-31 Nyala mine-protected personnel carrier.

The other three manufacturers still in the hunt are from Ireland, the UK and Germany. They have also formed

partnerships with Australian concerns in the hope of securing the tender.

The Australian army wants up to 400 IMVs, with first deliveries in 1997. The total value of the order is believed to be about R900 million [rands].

According to Jane's Defence Contracts, an authoritative weekly magazine specialising in defence sales and orders, the Bushrangers must be equipped to carry a nine-man section with weaponry and up to three days' supply of equipment, a minimum range of 600km, good speed on cross-country surfaces and a maximum road speed of 90km/h.

Chinese To Build 7 Factories in Free State

95AF0132A Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
19 Jun 95 p S5

[Unattributed article: "Free State Gets Seven Factories, Lekota Announces"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bloemfontein—A massive project of seven factories with jobs for 2,100 unemployed people and 800 houses for the poor east of Bloemfontein has been announced by Premier Patrick Lekota of the Free State.

The Chinese investors selected the Free State for development because they have a great deal of appreciation of the good community spirit and stability in that province.

The factories will produce, among other things, television sets, air conditioners, clothing, bricks, shoes, and toilet paper. The project is the fruit of Mr. Lekota's visit to the Republic of China (Taiwan) in March of this year.

A contract for the first phase of the project, the construction of 800 houses, was signed yesterday in Mr. Lekota's office in Bloemfontein by the Chinese company Hung Hsi International Development and the South African regional planning company Urban Dynamics.

The premier said that he is proud to announce the project, which was launched at the initiative of the Free State Government to create many jobs and houses.

He said that the Chinese investors have already spent a couple of years in the Free State. They feel that it is worthwhile for them to invest in that province because they have a great deal of appreciation for the good community spirit and stability there.

Construction on the inexpensive housing near Bloem-dustria will begin in October or even sooner. The proposed name of the neighborhood is Mandela View, but the residents will have the last word on that.

Mr. Leon Ehlers, the director of Urban Dynamics, said that tenders will be invited for the contracts to build the houses.

Mr. Chiu-lin Lai, the managing director of Hung Hsi, said that television sets, air conditioners, toilet paper, jeans, traditional styles of African women's clothing, shoes, and bricks will be made in the factories.

A technical training school will be built near the factories where workers will get training in the morning. In the afternoons they are trained in the factories.

Swedish, UK Experts To Help Solve Salary Crisis

MB2607135495 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
26 Jul 95 p 13

[Report by Norman Chandle]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Government has called in experts from Sweden and Britain to help break the impasse between the State and employee organisations over public service pay and service demands.

Disclosing this in Pretoria yesterday, Public Service and Administration Minister Dr Zola Skweyiya said it was hoped the experts would help find "solutions to the identified problem areas". These areas include salary grades and conditions of services.

Nearly 2-million public servants, agitating for improved wage increases and employment conditions for several months were given increases of between 4 and 5% on July 1, but there appears to be widespread dissatisfaction with this and some public servants have embarked on work-to-rule action.

Computer operators are threatening an all-out strike from Friday, and their action could seriously affect the State's international monetary dealings as well as air traffic control, the weather bureau, social pensions and revenue collection.

Skweyiya said he had tried to normalise labour relations in the public service earlier this year when he had convened a meeting between Deputy Presidents Thabo Mbeki and F W de Klerk and the presidents of employee organisations who were represented on the Central Chamber of the Public Service Bargaining Council.

It had been decided to set up joint task teams to investigate all issues over a three-year period. "This initiative contributed to negotiation being put back on track with an agreement being reached on May 23 on a plan for the improvement of conditions of service for the current financial year," he said.

It was hoped this agreement would achieve a further improvement. After delays due to various undisclosed

reasons, the main task force team is due to meet today and tomorrow to debate progress reports from sub-committees as well as the grading system and salary structure and the payment of allowances.

The May agreement called for adjustments of the five lowest salary notches to a minimum salary of R13,200 [rands] per annum — equal to a 22% increase — as well as an improvement for certain lower paid personnel from July 1.

This involved a general salary increase of 5% from July 1 for those earning between R24,630 and R107,019. Persons earning R126,411 were given a 4% rise, but Chief Directors, Deputy Directors General, Directors-General and personnel of equivalent ranks received no increase.

The agreement also proposed the participation of married women and single employees with no dependents in the State's homeowner allowance scheme.

South African Press Review for 26 Jul

MB2607123995

[FBIS Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Prison Reform — The "ghastly conditions" in which human beings are incarcerated in some South African prisons have been exposed in a series of visits by Correctional Services Minister Sipho Mzimela and his colleagues, notes a page-20 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 26 July. THE STAR welcomes the launch of a task group "which promises substantial changes in the system, even within the next year." The paper hopes there will be a reexamination of the criteria by which people are sent to jail "when community service would be a viable and infinitely more useful alternative."

Nigerian Leader 'Beyond Diplomatic Niceties' — In an article on the same page Allister Sparks writes that "no doubt it seemed wise at the time for South Africa to adopt a low-profile approach in urging Nigeria's military junta to show clemency to the large number of political opponents it has either sentenced to death

or jailed." However, the public execution of 43 people "within six hours of Thabo Mbeki delivering President Mandela's personal appeal to General Sani Abacha last Friday changes that perspective." "It was an outrageous act both in its flagrancy and grotesqueness which suggests that Abacha is a man beyond diplomatic niceties." Sparks says Mandela should propose that the Commonwealth issue an ultimatum to Abacha, that unless he releases Obasanjo and all other political prisoners, and takes steps to return Nigeria to democracy within a specified time, "comprehensive sanctions will be imposed" on the country. Sparks believes it is South Africa's "moral responsibility" and "duty" to initiate such action through the Commonwealth because South Africa is now the regional "superpower" and it "falls to us to help stabilise" the region. South Africa also has a moral responsibility "because we are ourselves the beneficiaries of international intervention that helped bring democracy to our country."

SOWETAN

Tribalism Used To Sow Division — The killing of 15 people at Sebokeng hostel in the Vaal Triangle this week are a reminder that "far from being an evil invention which came and went with apartheid, or a scourge which is wreaking havoc thousands of kilometres away in Bosnia, tribalism is alive and well in South Africa," says Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 26 July in a page 10 editorial. Under the high levels of violence people are "prone to look for scapegoats, which, if not political, will be tribal. The warning we must heed is that we need to remain vigilant and expose those who use tribalism to sow division and conflict to further their own selfish ends."

BUSINESS DAY

Prison Reform — South Africa's prisons "are neither deterring crime nor rehabilitating its perpetrators," declares Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 26 July in a page-12 editorial. Government's priority should be to "reform sentencing practice, to ensure that only serious and particularly violent offenders go to jail." The country needs a "more sophisticated penal system which does not fuel the ills it is supposed to combat."

Namibia

Mayor: Drought Threatens Development in Windhoek

MB2607204995 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2022 GMT 26 Jul 95

[Report by David Isaacson]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Windhoek July 26 SAPA — Windhoek is unable to sustain economic development in the face of drought which could leave the Namibian capital city dry within two years, Mayor Dr Bjorn von Finckenstein warned on Wednesday night. Namibia needed to decentralise its economy to ease the pressure urbanisation was placing on Windhoek's water supply.

Windhoek is Namibia's capital and the country's largest commercial centre.

"We are acutely aware of the pressures that the unprecedented growth of the city is placing on our water resources. The current state of our water supply remains bleak."

Von Finckenstein said that in 1994, new building plans approved for Windhoek amounted to ND520-million [Namibian dollars]. "Should development stop, due to a shortage of water in Windhoek, this will not only have a very negative effect on the growth of the city, but will also negatively affect the national economy....Economic decentralisation is vitally important."

He said one of Windhoek's four dams was already dry and the other three ranged between 25 and 45 percent full. At current consumption levels and without summer rains, Windhoek would be without water by November 1996. If a desired 30 percent consumption cut was realised, Windhoek would have sufficient water for just two years.

"Success can be ours if...economic decentralisation really takes place. This would also counter the urbanisation taking place at the present moment...."

"A national urbanisation policy could assist to curb the influx to the city," he said, adding municipal water regulations should be promulgated as a matter of urgency.

Windhoek was a model African city, Von Finckenstein said. "We must guard against the city of Windhoek lapsing into chaos and bedlam that is so evident in some parts of the world."

Namibian President Sam Nujoma, also the patron of Windhoek's water-saving campaign, echoed the mayor's concerns. "The challenge (of saving water) is worsened by the flocking of many people to Windhoek

from rural areas in search of jobs and better opportunities....

"Water is life and we must use it sparingly. The reality is such that our country is dry and we may not be able to afford luxuries that others in water-rich countries enjoy. This is the hard reality that we must learn to live with."

Mozambique

Prime Minister, PRC Official To Strengthen Ties

MB2707051395 Maputo TVM Television Network
in Portuguese 1800 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mozambique and the PRC are willing to strengthen bilateral cooperation at various levels. Both sides expressed that willingness at a meeting in Maputo this afternoon of delegations led by Prime Minister Pascoal Mocumbi and PRC Vice Premier Zhu Rongji. [passage omitted]

Swaziland

Assembly Approves Industrial Relations Bill

MB2707090295 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER
in English 27 Jul 95 p 2

[Report by Sibusiso Mngadi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Unions will be forced to ensure that only their members participate in a strike action called by them or risk being liable for the misdeeds of others if the new Industrial Relations Bill is passed.

The House of Assembly yesterday approved the Bill with very few and inconsequential amendments. An amendment seeking to allow members of the public to sue a union, organisation or federation if by engaging in a strike they caused destruction of private or public property was approved.

The Minister of Labour and Public Service, Mr Albert Shabangu said even members of political parties can hijack a union strike and cause the destruction of private property. The individual is entitled to sue the union instead of the members of political parties.

Members of Parliament expressed concern that union strikes are usually joined by members of political groups who use it as a chance to loot and engage in many illegal acts.

Government Reacts to RSA Writer's Criticism

MB2707085295 Mbabane THE TIMES OF
SWAZILAND in English 27 Jul 95 pp 1, 32

[Report by Nimrod Mabuza]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mbabane — Government has reacted angrily to a scathing attack on His Majesty King

Mswati III by a South African [SA] journalist's article which was published in the massive daily, The Star newspaper.

The article referred to the King as a tin-pot dictator and called for drastic measures against Swaziland leaders. He likened the leaders here to the military council of General Sani Abacha of Nigeria. It appeared in Monday's [25 July] issue of the Star.

The government views the attack by Kaizer Nyatumba as an insult to the entire Swazi nation. A spokesman said the matter may even be taken up with the SA government.

In yesterday's cabinet meeting, a committee led by Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Sishayi Nxumalo was appointed to work on the issue at government level. It was established that other members of the committee include: Minister of Education, Senator Arthur Khoza, Minister of Finance Dr Derek von Wissell and Minister of Transport and Communication, Mr Ephraim Magagula.

The Prime Minister, Prince Mbilini only confirmed that there is a committee under Dr Nxumalo "which is working on the matter". He referred enquiries to Dr Nxumalo who declined to comment. "Please excuse me, I am not making comments on reports that are in The Star," he said.

In his article, Nyatumba charged that the king rules Swaziland as his personal fiefdom and stage-managed the democratization process. He said he wondered why the king who is young was showing aversion to democracy and clinging to archaic views and principles.

He suggested that SA should impose economic sanctions on Swaziland. Nyatumba further alleged that trade unions have been banned in Swaziland.

In a statement yesterday Minister of Labour and Public Service Mr Albert Shabangu scoffed at the allegations. Mr Shabangu said to call the king a "tin-pot dictator" and that he is "showing aversion to democracy" is an insult which Swazis cannot allow.

"The 'big brother' thinking of Nyatumba is typical of all those who see territorial size as a licence to bully others. This is why he cannot accept a 'tiny kingdom' carving her own political path. It is important to remind Nyatumba, and those who think like him that we are a sovereign state like huge ones," he said.

Mr Shabangu invited Nyatumba to come to Swaziland on a fact-finding mission. He even offered accommodation to Nyatumba should he accept the invitation.

Minister: Amnesty International Distorting Facts

MB2707101095 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER
in English 27 Jul 95 pp 1, 2

[Report by Pat Jele]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Minister for Home Affairs, Prince Sobandla has accused Amnesty International of distorting facts about the human rights situation in the country.

An angry Prince Sobandla said the Amnesty International report for this year, which has blamed the legal system in Swaziland for denying the populace "basic rights" — is an indication that there are certain elements hell-bent on tarnishing the image of the country to the international community.

He also accused Amnesty International of being biased.

The international human rights watchdog had also accused the Judicial Service Commission of having compromised the impartiality of the judiciary in the country — noting that last year, there were also reports of being tortured in police custody.

Addressing the Italian Ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Ugo Gabriele de Mohr at a meeting held along the Mpaka Railway line, Prince Sobandla said too many bad things are being said about the country by certain individuals who want to destroy it.

Prince Sobandla believes Amnesty International got "incorrect information" from locals whose aim is to ridicule the country.

He told Mr de Mohr that Swaziland is now being viewed by the international community as not respecting human rights saying this is far from true.

"I am very bitter and sorry at this state of affairs because I was born here and I have no other country besides Swaziland," the Prince said. Mr de Mohr responded: "Very well true."

Chairman of the National Disaster Task Force, Mr Ben Nsibandze remarked: "Ngulokuboshwa kwalama journalists loku lokwasibangela yonkhe lentfo," (meaning that it is the arrest of four Swazi Observer Journalists in March that brought the human rights spotlight on Swaziland, and the accusations of human rights abuse in the Kingdom).

Prince Sobandla further told Mr de Mohr: "Too little is being said to promote us (Swaziland). I think I am speaking to an International who is well versed with the happenings of the country."

Mr Mohr replied: "Yeah, correct."

Prince Sobandla added: "Your Excellency, look here, I know my bosses and I have attended many conferences and I have been to school in the U.S., Kenya, Ghana and etc and I know how bad Amnesty International reporters can do to destroy a country by publishing false statements, mainly about African Governments."

This was during a donation of 58.000 [metric] tonnes of soup worth E3.75m [emalangeli] to drought victims and refugees held at Malindza refugee camp — this week.

Editorial: Country Must Open Up to Multiparties

MB2707102495 Mbabane THE TIMES OF
SWAZILAND in English 27 Jul 95 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Text] You can't help thinking somebody, somewhere inside this Tinkhundla [traditional community councils] system of ours, sat under a tree and said "How can I wreck the economy of Swaziland?"

"I know," he said, "I'll get politicians to dream up an Industrial Relations Bill that Employers and the Unions will hate. Then I'll hint that politicians should bring in a Trade Control Bill that will make opening businesses here all that much harder. And finally I'll get some conservative chief to introduce a motion stopping foreigners from owning land — that should stop development nicely."

It looks as though that sinister person, if he exists, is going to be successful in erecting a huge wattle fence all around Swaziland to keep out businessmen.

Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia and Botswana won't believe their luck. Swaziland opting OUT of the race for investors.

Companies like Conco, Usutu, C.D.C., Fridgemaster and Ubombo are big enough to stare government in the face, but anybody smaller is unlikely now to make Swaziland its first choice as a country in which to invest.

If this country is to be saved from itself we desperately need progressive new thinking on our problems. Tinkhundla lives in the past and is keeping the nation rooted in the past. Unfortunately we all live in the present.

The only way we can go forward and get a reviving injection of fresh ideas is to open up to multi-party politics. There are many sensible, intelligent, well-educated, competent people in Swaziland who would come forward and stand for Parliament if it were multi-party. They won't serve under the Tinkundla system because of its masters in the shadows.

The group that is AGAINST multi-party is becoming more and more isolated. They are openly being criticised as a group only interested in their own self-preservation.

It's much better if the nation goes forward together. Then we will ALL survive.

Zimbabwe

Local Elections Postponed From Aug to Oct

MB2607195395 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio
in English 1600 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Zimbabwean Government has announced that the local government elections scheduled for next month will be held in October. The government postponed the elections two weeks ago to allow Parliament to pass a bill creating the post of executive mayor in municipal councils and giving the vote to all adult residents in urban areas. Under the old legislation only householders and property owners were empowered to vote, disenfranchising thousands of domestic workers and lodgers.

Analysts Predict Inflation Rate 'To Soar'

MB2707112195 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1053 GMT 27 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Harare July 27 SAPA — Zimbabwe's annualised inflation rate, currently pegged at 19.9 per cent as of June, is projected to soar from this month amid general increases in food prices, ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] news agency reports.

A publication from market analysts, Dataworld, said inflation would remain in the low twenties over the next few months, although there was an increasing chance of it peaking in the mid-twenties over the next few months. "Inflation can only move upwards from July (July figures to be announced in mid-August) and the question is to where?"

Economists say last month's 26 per cent hike in electricity tariffs would add significantly to inflation as power charges were also a major component of a basket of goods monitored on a monthly basis to determine the change in the general price level. Increases in the prices of basic commodities like mealie-meal and bread coupled with wage and salary increments, increased consumption taxes, transport and medical aid tariffs, would also upsurge the rate to higher levels. High inflation in Zimbabwe has become a nightmare for economic planners as it dampens investment and could lead to a slowdown in economic growth.

Cote d'Ivoire

Liberian Rebels Said 'Preparing' for Clashes

AB2607151595 Abidjan LA VOIE in French
26 Jul 95 p 5

[Article by Bledson Mathieu: "Threats of Inter-Rebel Clashes; Tabou May Go Ablaze]

[FBIS Translated Text] Rival Liberian factions, who have taken refuge in Tabou, are seriously preparing for a fight, according to Ivorians from that locality, who stress that they left the town because they foresee a clash there.

This information needs to be taken seriously because it is supported with precise details: "Every blessed day, each rebel side holds a meeting, especially in Kablake District. The objective seems to be the destruction of a rival faction. We have even seen them transporting arms into the bush, certainly for hiding."

Meanwhile, in another district, Tabou-Trois, other rebels are getting organized. The problem is that each faction is aware of the other's existence, and they have sworn to destroy their rivals to the last man. Moreover, each side is appealing for combatants from Liberia.

This information, which could have been taken with a pinch of salt, is confirmed by an IVORIAN NEWS AGENCY dispatch dated 23 July. It reads: "Liberian rebels: Toward the risk of renewed clashes between rebel factions. Will Cote d'Ivoire once again become the stage for skirmishes between Liberian rebel forces? The situation is all the more disturbing as residents and people from the locality and neighboring areas reveal that the rebels hold regular and clandestine meetings almost every day. They fear a possible clash between the belligerent forces, whose members have found a hideout in the area.

"The rebels, who were recognized by refugees, have left the combat areas for Cote d'Ivoire, and live mostly in Tabou-Trois district, reputed to be a den of rebels who team up with bandits at night to attack inhabitants who no longer dare to go out at night for fear of being attacked. This information was confirmed by Kablake District residents who claim that a group of rebels holds regular clandestine meetings during which appeals are made by telephone."

Upon reading these lines written by a correspondent living in Tabou, one cannot help feeling as concerned as the Ivorians sharing common borders with Liberia. Must we wait for the rebels to set a perpetual fire before we protest?

Ghana

ECOWAS Summit Postponed Until 28 Jul

AB2707112595 Cotonou Office de
Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French
0615 GMT 27 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The annual summit of the heads of state of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, that was scheduled to take place today in Accra, has been postponed for 24 hours. It will begin tomorrow. Fourteen heads of state out of 16 have already confirmed their participation. Among the main topics on the agenda, are the Liberian civil war as well as some border incidents between ECOWAS member states.

Guinea

Opposition 'Ready' To Talk With President

AB2707105595 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Guinean opposition suddenly feels the need to talk with the government despite the tumultuous relations between the two political families since the last local elections. The Coordination of Democratic Opposition [CODEM] now wants to have a dialogue with the government. This was revealed to Ben Daouda Sylla, our Conakry correspondent, by Mamadou Ba, the leader of the Union for the New Republic and the opposition coalition spokesman.

[Begin recording] [Ba] Following the CODEM communique we issued in response to the interior minister, we have not thought it fit to raise our voice. We have simply wanted people to understand very well that our objective is democratization and not sitting in the National Assembly. We feared being dragged into the terrain of sitting or not sitting in the National Assembly. That is not the issue. The issue, once again, is that we want democracy in our country and we are ready to talk with the government. This time around, however, we would like to have a dialogue, not with the interior minister, but with the president himself. This time he must come out clearly to demonstrate that he is ready to negotiate.

[Sylla] Why are you still silent as far as CODEM's struggle is concerned?

[Ba] Once again I think we have not been very well understood. We said that we have chosen to react. We have resisted. This means that we are not going on the offensive. Each time the government attacks us, we shall hit back. If they do not attack us we will not react.

For the time being, there has not been anything. There is perhaps the Keredougou case, which is somewhat confused and to which no clear solution has been found. It

seems that there has effectively been an embezzlement. The government has taken its precautions in presenting this embezzlement case as a game played according to the norms without anything illegal done. Once again, our objective is clear: We want democracy in our country. If they are violent, we shall be violent. If they are not violent, we shall not be violent. [end recording]

Niger

Prime Minister, President Hold 'Cordial' Talks

AB2707094095 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 1900 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] We are probably heading toward the end of the institutional crisis within the executive branch of government. After successively receiving leaders of the parliamentary majority this morning and former Malian President Amadou Toumani Toure, President Mahamane Ousmane resumed dialogue with his prime minister. In fact, he held talks this morning with Hama Amadou, who said he had very cordial talks with the president of the Republic. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Hama] What must be noted is that in such political conflicts the most important thing is that the various protagonists are able to talk to one another. I think efforts from various people have allowed for talks between President Mahamane Ousmane and myself. We spoke exclusively about the crisis and how to get out of it in order to normalize the situation and avoid giving our country an image of people who do not know what they want. I am happy to say that I personally opted to speak frankly about all the problems with President Mahamane Ousmane who, in turn, spoke very frankly. We went as far as raising the issue of personality problems because it is often personality issues that bring about difficulties in the smooth running of state affairs. It was necessary to clarify certain things and I think each one of us spoke about them, and although as far as personality issues are concerned, it is difficult to immediately normalize things. At least it was worth the while that this issue was raised because it gives each side an idea as to the type of effort each one has to make to reach out to the other and speak out frankly.

Each of us should have the same interpretation of the notion of cohabitation. This is because in all systems of cohabitation, the president of the Republic should know exactly to what extent he should be involved in the management of the affairs of the state; that is, what role he should play, since he is elected by the people, he cannot be marginalized in the running of the state. That is quite understandable. We have therefore agreed to settle this aspect of the problem in practical terms. We have also agreed to find a consensual framework through which we can work out the most suitable

approach to the problem with the assistance of neutral personalities and state institutions. This will enable us to define cohabitation and settle once and for all the points that brought about the difficulties we are now facing. Among these points, as you know, is exclusion.

Exclusion is not only a problem of cohabitation, it is also a problem of majority takes all because during the first legislature, we experienced cases of exclusion, which was the root cause of many upheavals. During this second legislature, we continue to experience the problem of exclusion which is the cause of the impasse and upheavals that we all know. Therefore, if we want our democracy to continue to thrive positively, we should together, under a consensual basis, find a final and defined response to the problem of exclusion. This is the problem we should settle in the mean time.

Now, regarding the specific problem of holding cabinet meetings, the majority group accepted this morning that they be held normally. It told President Mahamane Ousmane this morning that it will make concessions on the basis of the specific problems relating to the holding of cabinet meetings that the president might raise. Therefore, the president of the Republic and I have agreed to give him the time. I think he will do so rapidly, bringing out the points that the government must review in order to normalize the situation. I am waiting for an answer on these different aspects of the question and, since the majority has authorized it, the government will find the appropriate solutions so that cabinet meetings can henceforth take place in conditions of renewed serenity.

[First unidentified correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, can we concretely speak today of an end to this crisis?

[Hama] Well, we can speak of the beginning of an end of the crisis. There will be an end to the crisis when the cabinet has met and examined some issues that are usually examined at the cabinet meeting. However, since we have spoken to each other and are beginning to find the ways of finding a solution to the crisis, we can speak of the beginning of an end to the crisis but not an end to the crisis.

[Second unidentified correspondent] Your Excellency, when will the police and security forces return to their barracks so that we can know that real progress has been made?

[Amadou] I think we must not anticipate where the problems are. We must wait for the president of the Republic to pinpoint the problems. We will then give the necessary answer. I do not think you have to crystallize the issue. Perhaps for us the problem is the security forces while for President Ousmane, the problem may

be elsewhere. We must not substitute ourselves for the president of the Republic and propose him solutions that he has not even spoken about.

[Second correspondent] So, if we understand you correctly, nothing concrete came out of your discussions.

[Hama] Yes, absolutely, all that I am telling you is very concrete because once the majority is prepared to make concessions, the problem is solved. The stand of the majority is not static. There is no extremist attitude in its stand and the president of the Republic had very cordial discussions with me this morning and I think he also wants a solution to the crisis. There were concrete actions on both sides and this deserves to be saluted.

[Third unidentified Correspondent] So the application of Article 55 is no longer threatening Niger.

[Hama] It is not the prime minister's duty to say that the risk has been avoided or not. The president of the Republic does not need the approval of the prime minister before applying Article 55. It is to him that you should ask the question at the appropriate time if the application of Article 55 has been reversed or not. [end recording]

Leaders Agree To Work Together

LD2607223195 *Paris Radio France International in French* 2130 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Niger, contact has been re-established between the head of state and his prime minister. The two men had not spoken to each other since 6 July, but today Mahamane Ousmane and Hama Amadou met for about an hour in the office of the president. Muriel Pomponne has more:

[Pomponne] [passage omitted] Both men took the opportunity to contact French President Jacques Chirac during his recent African visit. Finally, the two agreed to meet yesterday [as heard] for a long private talk. At the end of the talk, Hama Amadou announced that his government is willing to look at the areas of disagreement which the head of state mentioned with regard to the holding of cabinet meetings. In fact, the first test will come as early as this Thursday, the usual day for meetings of the Council of Ministers. As far as the crux of the problem is concerned, the prime minister believes a definitive, systematic solution can be found. The crux of the problem is, in fact, each leader's wish to appoint his own supporters to key cabinet posts.

President Ousmane on Ongoing Crisis

AB2507183595 *Libreville Africa No. 1 in French* 1215 GMT 25 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The crisis involving the men at the helm of affairs in Niger lingers on. It was thought that Togolese and Malian mediation efforts last week were going to resolve the matter, but that has not been the case. The head of state, Mahamane Ousmane, and Prime Minister Hama Amadou, are still unable to reconcile their viewpoints in spite of mediations, as I said, undertaken by a Togolese Government delegation, and former Malian President Amadou Toumani Toure. The situation is still deadlocked and no cabinet meetings have been held since the crisis set in several weeks ago. Security men detailed by the prime minister to bar some chiefs executive of state enterprises from entering their offices are still at post. Faced with this situation, President Mahamane Ousmane no longer has the (?prop) to implement his policy. The head of state has decided to move into action by using all the powers conferred on him by the Constitution. Listen to him as he speaks here to Mallam Yaro:

[Begin Ousmane recording] The situation is very serious, because we cannot continue to tolerate this kind of constant breach of the laws of the Republic and the Constitution. I took an oath to have the Constitution respected, and to abide by it myself. I cannot, even if I wanted to, look on just like that in the face of such acts. This is why we not only have to restore Republican legality but we must also define new modalities for the running of state business in the context of cohabitation. [end recording]

Nigeria

Obasanjo's Lawyer Arrested After News Conference

AB2607165695 *London BBC World Service in English* 1505 GMT 26 Jul 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There have been more arrests in Nigeria. Among those picked up was a senior lawyer who has been acting for General Obasanjo, the former head of state who has been tried and convicted of treason in connection with an alleged coup plot earlier this year. Gen. Obasanjo is one of 40 people convicted, and it is believed some could face the death penalty. On the line to Lagos, Josephine Hazely asked a colleague of the arrested lawyer, Latif Karim, what had happened.

[Begin recording] [Karim] Mr. Abayomi called a press conference today to address gentlemen of the press over

the (?condemnation) of Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo. In the course of his addressing the press, some men came in, who introduced themselves as SSS [State Security Service] men, and he was picked up thereafter.

[Hazely] You say they introduced themselves as what men, exactly?

[Karim] State Security men, SSS.

[Hazely] Yes.

[Karim] So, their leader just flashed his ID card, came in, asked everybody.... [pauses] gathered everybody in a room, searched the pressmen, including the lawyer and staffers too; thereafter, Dr. Tunji Abayomi was taken away.

[Hazely] Where to?

[Karim] Actually we followed them up to (Shangisha). The SSS headquarters is at (Shangisha), Lagos, just off the Lagos-Ibadan expressway.

[Hazely] Was your colleague, Tunji Abayomi, taken away on his own, or did somebody else go with him?

[Karim] Okay, he was taken with about two other journalists: one Mr. Wole Adeyemu of TELL magazine, and Mr. Femi Shibuwa, a BBC correspondent.

[Hazely] Did the SSS security — state security personnel — did they say why they have picked up these three people?

[Karim] No, they did not give any reason. They just picked him for interrogation. That was their reason. They said they wanted to interrogate him, and they took him off.

[Hazely] What did Mr. Tunji Abayomi say at the press conference he called?

[Karim] He was trying to tell gentlemen of the press that Dr. Abayomi knew nothing about the (?alleged) coup that Abacha was talking about. He was trying to enlighten them that Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo knew nothing about the coup, and that was it, because Gen. Obasanjo happens to be a client of his chambers.

[Hazely] Did he say anything that was derogatory about General Abacha?

[Karim] No, he did not say anything as such. He was just only trying to absolve Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo and nothing more.

[Hazely] He was calling for his release, was he?

[Karim] Of course, he was calling for his immediate release from detention.

[Hazely] Well, so what are you going to do now, though?

[Karim] We are still waiting. Since he was taken away for interrogation, we believe that he will be released today. If not, we have no other choice than to go to court.

[Hazely] Do you believe at all that these alleged coup plotters, including Gen. Obasanjo, might be released? Do you feel that they might be pardoned?

[Karim] As for now, we just believe that if these men are made to see reason, they might be released. That is what we intend doing: enlightening the world that the allegation of coup.... [Karim pauses] I mean, there is nothing like coup in Nigeria; that this man was just trying to pick some men that he believes are his enemies, lock them in, and get them convicted. [end recording]

Official on Reduction of Sentences

AB2107145095 London BBC World Service
in English 0615 GMT 21 Jul 95

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Julian Marshall]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] [Marshall] The pressure is really piling up on Nigeria's military leader, General Sani Abacha, to review sentences handed down to 40 people convicted for their alleged involvement in a coup plot. [passage omitted] Well, Gen. Abacha's press spokesman, David Attah, is in London at the moment. Was the Nigerian leader in any mood for clemency?

[Begin recording] [Attah] There is every reason to believe that Gen. Abacha will feel very sympathetic to these pleas and the concern that has been shown by the international community. He is a very compassionate person. I have every reason to believe that he is going to look at each case on its merit, and take definite steps to, perhaps, temper justice with mercy.

[Marshall] So, can we take it then that there is a very high probability that, where death sentences have been passed, they will be commuted; and that where lengthy prison sentences have been imposed, they will be shortened?

[Attah] I do know of fact that there is degree of involvement by the plotters. [sentence as heard] They are not involved to the same extent. Beyond that, I cannot give you any specific details.

[Marshall] Do you know, for instance, how central to the plot General Olusegun Obasanjo was?

[Attah] I do not know, unfortunately.

[Marshall] If Gen. Abacha is the kind of man who, you say, is capable of displaying compassion, why did he bring these men to trial in the first place, and subject them to the kind of ordeal that they have obviously undergone?

[Attah] It is because of the gravity of the offense itself.

[Marshall] But would it not have been easier for him, easier for Nigeria, if the trial had been conducted with greater transparency, if the judiciary process had been more open, if the world had been able to see the body of evidence that there was against these men?

[Attah] There is no way such a trial can be done in the open. Like the last one, it was done absolutely in accordance with the existing law of the country. That law was signed by Obasanjo himself, and he had used it in a similar situation in the past.

[Marshall] So, because Gen. Obasanjo has used this particular judicial method, it justifies Gen. Abacha using it as well?

[Attah] I am not suggesting that at all. I am just using it to illustrate my argument.

[Marshall] Do you think Gen. Abacha has been surprised? Indeed, are you surprised at the strength of international condemnation of the government action in bringing these people to trial and handing down the kind of sentence as they have....

[Attah, interrupting] We are not surprised, because people have closed their eyes to the current efforts by the administration to restore democracy.

[Marshall] What are these efforts to restore democracy, because Gen. Abacha's government gives every impression of dragging its heels and a marked reluctance to hand back to a civilian government?

[Attah] I see as some of the positive signals the conclusion of the Constitutional Conference. The draft

is ready, Gen. Abacha has lifted the ban on politics, and he has told the world that details of his political timetable will be announced in October.

[Marshall] Could Nigeria withstand the kind of sanctions that the United States is reported to be considering? Could it withstand sanctions in general from the international community?

[Attah] Certainly not, and it is most unfortunate, and it will only help to aggravate the Nigerian situation. For instance, the people we are trying to protect and defend will be the final point of impact. [end recording]

Senegal

Five Soldiers Killed in Ambush Near Ziguinchor

AB2607152095 Paris AFP in English
1441 GMT 26 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dakar, 26 Jul (AFP) — Five Senegalese soldiers have been killed by suspected separatists in an ambush in the south of the country, an authoritative source said here Wednesday [26 July]. The soldiers were mounting a patrol Tuesday afternoon around 18 kilometres (11 miles) from Ziguinchor, the main town in the southern Casamance region of Senegal, when they fell into the ambush suspected to have been laid by the Casamance Movement of Democratic Forces (MFDC), the source said. There were no details of separatist casualties.

Tuesday's deaths bring to 24 the number killed in the separatist region since June 21, despite a call for a ceasefire by the secretary general of the MFDC, Father Augustin Diamacoune Senghor. The main wing of the movement, which charges that the mainly animist province has been colonised by settlers from Senegal's Islamic north, signed a peace pact with the government in 1993, but a dissident group has rejected the truce.

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